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232

JULY 17, 1970

IAI

Honorable Ogden R. Reid
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Dear Congressman Reid:

I refer to your communication of June 26, inquiring about U.S. military and economic assistance to Israel and the Arab states, and about the outcome of the Israeli attack on the U.S.S. LIBERTY. Mr. Herman Herst, Jr. had asked for this information.

The enclosed table provides comparative information on economic assistance extended to Israel and the principal Arab countries. Most data on military assistance are classified, notably the amount of military credit assistance in conjunction with military sales. Consequently, it is impossible to provide for Mr. Herst an adequate picture of military assistance.

In connection with the U.S.S. LIBERTY, I also enclose a copy of a Department of State press release of May 13, 1969, which reports the status of the compensation claims. There has been no change since May 1969. The Israeli Government took responsibility for the incident, which it called a tragic error. We have no information on disciplinary action which might have been taken.

I hope this information will be helpful to you in replying to Mr. Herst. Please continue to call on me whenever you think I can be of assistance.

Sincerely yours,

David M. Abshire
Assistant Secretary for
Congressional Relations

Enclosures:
1. Economic Assistance to Selected Countries
2. Press Release No. 116

NEA/IAI:JKMatter:hml 7/9/70
retyped: 7/13/70 hml
RS/R No. 12414

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U.S. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO SELECTED COUNTRIES
(FY 1946 - FY 1969 -- Millions of Dollars)

Country	Total*	A.I.D. Grants	A.I.D. Loans	Food for Peace	Long-term Eximbank Loans
Israel	1,226.1	234.8	278.0	424.8	288.4
Algeria	185.3	3.8	---	181.5	---
Iraq	55.3	18.8	---	23.1	12.5
Jordan	589.9	471.9	12.7	102.1	1.8
Lebanon	84.0	52.6	4.9	19.8	5.0
Libya	212.3	130.3	7.0	35.3	---
Morocco	692.7	23.9	296.3	339.6	26.9
Saudia Arabia	58.6	27.4	---	---	26.8
Syria	60.4	1.5	3.2	55.6	---
Tunisia	596.6	119.1	169.8	295.8	4.1
U.A.R.	912.2	68.8	85.8	698.7	47.8

*Total also includes a small increment of "Other."

Source: U.S.A.I.D., U.S. Overseas Loans and Grants.

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June 26, 1970

MEMORANDUM TO: Congressional Liaison
Department of State

FROM: Congressman Ogden R. Reid

SUBJECT: Mr. Herman Herst, Jr.
Shrub Oak, New York 10588

Mr. Herst has written to Congressman Reid asking the following questions to which we would appreciate answers, as may be appropriate:

1. "I had read somewhere that the military aid, and perhaps the economic aid as well, that we had given the total of Arab countries exceeded by far that which we had given Israel. . . .Would you be able to give figures on this subject?"

2. With regard to the attack on the Liberty in 1967, Mr. Herst asked: "whether the Israelis who shelled it were ever disciplined, and whether any restitution had been made. Were the circumstances of this attack ever determined? Was it deliberate, or was it accidental? "

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

ANALYSIS BRANCH

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